# FIRE CALIFORNIA OF PARTMENT

## **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

DARYL L. OSBY FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

September 14, 2015

TO:

**EACH SUPERVISOR** 

FROM:

DARYL L. OSBY, FIRE CHIEF

Deo

UPDATE: 2015 LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT GIRLS FIRE CAMP

The purpose of this memo is to provide your Honorable Board with an update on the first-ever "Girls Fire Camp" conducted by the Los Angeles County Fire Department (Department).

On Saturday, September 12, 2015, the Department hosted its first ever "Girls Fire Camp", with the goal of exposing young females to career opportunities within the Department. The camp program was designed to allow participants to interact with women employed by our Department, be provided the opportunity to inquire into their daily duties and observe the nature of the job. The event was promoted throughout the Department's Operational Divisions via our Community Service Representatives and social media sites (see attached flyer).

Of the 50 young women who signed up to participate, 42 attended the camp. The participants comprised of females between the ages of 14 and 19 from throughout the Los Angeles County Region, with an average age of 16 years old. The young women were taught by 12 of our Department's female firefighters, 1 female fire dispatcher and 5 young female fire explorer scouts.

The camp participants enjoyed a full day of activities ranging from, discussion groups with female explorer scouts to question and answer sessions with our first-ever female Chief Deputy Dawnna Lawrence and Battalion Chief Veronie Steele-Small. The participants were provided a light workout around the Headquarter complex, a tour of Fire Department apparatus, rotated hands on training stations and also toured our 9-1-1 Dispatch center, with the opportunity to hear 9-1-1 calls as they came in. By the end of

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

The Honorable Board of Supervisors September 14, 2015 Page 2

the day each participant received a Certificate of Participation, completed a program evaluation and took a group picture with the firefighters. I also attended to observe the camp and provide the participants with inspirational comments on the benefits of joining the fire service. The feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive.

The Department is excited about this program and intends on hosting another camp within the next few months. As a side note, the Los Angeles City Fire Department expressed an interest in using our Department's "Girls Fire Camp" program as a model and sent three representatives to observe the program to gather information and ideas on how to implement this program for their own department.

I am proud of this progressive achievement for the County, Department and fire service as a whole. Moving forward, the Department will collaborate with each Supervisorial District to actively promote this program and ensure this opportunity is shared throughout Los Angeles County. I will keep you posted as more information becomes available.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 881-6180.

#### DLO:at

#### Attachment

c: Sachi Hamai Sheila Williams Jim Jones Ben Polk Derric Johnson Maria Chong-Castillo Rick Velasquez Sussy Nemar



Learn what it takes to become a part of the Los Angeles County Fire Department

# GIRLS FIRE CAMP For girls ages 14-19

## Saturday, September 12, 2015

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided

## LA County Fire Department Headquarters

Training Center, Room 26 1320 N. Eastern Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90063

#### **RSVP Mandatory**

Please contact the Recruitment Unit Captain Brent Burton or Department Intern Gwen White Phone: (323) 881-6116 or Email: recruitmentunit@fire.lacounty.gov





This camp will be led by the women of the Los Angeles County Fire Department: Firefighters, Dispatchers, Lifeguards & other professional staff.

Please wear exercise attire.

Loose fit clothing such as shorts and sweat pants are recommended.

